

SEPA Implementation Guidelines

Lewis County Community Development Division

These policies and guidelines are intended as help in implementing the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), and are condensed from the SEPA rules and Lewis County Ordinance #1080.

I. Categorical Exemptions to SEPA:

1. Up to five (5) dwelling units.
2. The construction of a barn, loafing shed, farm equipment storage building, produce storage or packing structure, or similar agricultural structure, covering up to 30,000 square feet and to be used only by the property owner or his agent in the conduct of farming of property. This exemption shall not apply to feed lots.
3. Office, school, commercial, recreational, service, or storage buildings up to 4,000 square feet and up to 20 parking spaces.
4. Parking lots up to 20 parking spaces.
5. For landfills and excavations up to 500 cubic yards
6. Underground storage tanks up to 10,000 gallons.
7. Above ground storage tanks up to 500 gallons.
8. Water reservoirs up to 5,000 gallons.

If a proposal is exempt, none of the procedural requirements of Ordinance #1080 shall apply nor shall the County require the completion of an environmental checklist.

II. Requirements for use of SEPA checklist:

1. Applicant must completely answer all questions on the checklist.
2. Applicant must submit a complete description of the project.
3. Applicant must submit a detailed plot plan and/or other information to accurately and completely show the project, its location, and any rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands, or other environmental sensitive areas.

Failure to supply complete and/or accurate information will be grounds for rejection of the completed checklist.

Requirements for State Environmental Policy Act

The State Environmental Policy Act - Environmental Checklist Form (SEPA Checklist) must be fully completed and signed. All questions must be answered, even if the appropriate answer is “No”, “N/A” (not applicable) or “None”. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

A development permit application must be submitted with the SEPA Checklist (building, septic, fill/grade, subdivision, etc.).

An accurate and detailed site plan will also be required. This should be to scale and show all existing and proposed driveways, structures, fill locations, etc. This site plan must also show the location of any existing wells (private or public), septic systems, waterways, slopes, etc.

Fees:

SEPA Checklist	\$ 605.00*
Planning Review Fee	\$ 90.00
<small>(Fee required if not paid with building permit submittal with this project)</small>	
Public Works Review	\$ 200.00
Environmental Health Review	\$ 180.00
<small>(\$90 for OSS and \$90 for Water Program)</small>	
Total Fees	\$1,075.00

* Includes \$355.00 application fee plus \$250.00 legal publication fee up to 3 hours. Additional fee of \$100.00 per hour for extra review time.

Note: additional fees may be required for development permits and due at the time application submitted or when permit approved